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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

DUPONT et al.

Serial No.: 09/479,186

Filed: January 7, 2000

Date: June 29, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2831

Examiner: D. Walkenhorst

For: DYNAMIC UMBILICALS WITH INTERNAL STEEL RODS

Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

This is a response to the Office Action mailed March 29, 2001 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

FEE CALCULATION

No fee payment is required. If any additional payment is required, or if the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

AMENDMENTS

If checked, amendment(s) to the specification and/or claims are submitted herewith.

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